

Claims: What is claimed is:

1. A method of enrolling an individual using a fingerprint reader or scanner comprising:
 - a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 1. inspecting said individual's fingertips
 - b. rejecting said individual for a fingerprint scan if said agent determines fingerprint scan will be invalid

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual in the enrollment process.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, further including:
 - a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 1. inspecting said individual's hands and
 2. inspecting said individual's fingers and
 3. inspecting said individual's fingertips

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual in the enrollment process.

3. A method as recited in claim 1, further including:
 - a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 1. inspecting said individual's hands and
 2. inspecting said individual's fingers and
 3. inspecting said individual's fingertips and
 4. asking said individual whether they are in someway being coerced

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual, without coercion, in the enrollment process and to prevent unauthorized actions based upon said individual's fingerprint enrollment.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, further including:
 - a. providing an item for said individual to use with means of dislodging or removing external objects on an individual's fingertips prior to a fingerprint scan

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual in the enrollment process.

5. A method as recited in claim 1, further including:
 - a. providing an item for said individual to use with means of cleaning their fingers or fingertips prior to a fingerprint scan

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual in the enrollment process and for a better fingerprint image.

6. A method of authenticating an individual using a fingerprint reader or scanner comprising:
 - a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 1. inspecting said individual's fingertips
 - b. rejecting said individual for a fingerprint scan if the said agent determines fingerprint scan will be invalid

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action

7. A method as recited in claim 6, further including:

- a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 - 1. inspecting said individual's hands and
 - 2. inspecting said individual's fingers and
 - 3. inspecting said individual's fingertips

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

8. A method as recited in claim 6, further including:

- a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 - 1. inspecting said individual's fingertips and
 - 2. asking said individual whether they are in some way being coerced

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual, who is not being coerced, for authorization of an action.

9. A method as recited in claim 6, further including:

- 1. providing an item for said individual to use with means of cleaning their fingers or fingertips prior to a fingerprint scan

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

10. A method as recited in claim 6, further including:

- a. providing an item for said individual to use with means of cleaning their fingers or fingertips prior to a fingerprint scan

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action and for a better fingerprint image.

11. A method of authenticating an individual using a fingerprint reader or scanner comprising:

- a. providing an agent to inspect said individual prior to a fingerprint scan comprising of:
 - 1. inspecting said individual's fingertips
- b. providing an item for said individual to use with means of cleaning their fingers or fingertips prior to a fingerprint scan and
- c. rejecting said individual for a fingerprint scan if said agent determines fingerprint scan will be invalid and
- d. requesting said individual to place his or her fingertips on the fingerprint reader or scanner if said agent determines fingerprint scan will be valid and
- e. a software application with means of indicating whether said individual's fingerprint scan matches an existing fingerprint template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

12. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. approving access to a facility if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized fingerprint template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

13. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. approving access to data, wherever it resides, if said individual's the fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

14. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. approving access to a software application or operating system if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

15. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. approving access to an image if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

16. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. approving access to update data if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

17. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. allowing said individual to update a password if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

18. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. allowing said individual to update a userid if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.

19. A method as recited in claim 11, further including:

- a. allowing said individual to update a Personal Identification Number (PIN)
if said individual's fingerprint scan matches an authorized template

whereby said method increases the trustworthiness of a fingerprint or fingertip scan to identify an individual for authorization of an action.